

## Commission on aging faces financial concerns

By Mary Weber  
Staff Writer

In a world of cutbacks it seems no one is immune to the daily struggle of making ends meet. The Alcona County Commission on Aging (ACCOA) is among those having to make some tough choices about its future.

The ACCOA recorded \$234,860.65 available cash on hand during the board of directors meeting in January. At first glance, that might seem like enough to get through the year, however, with increasing costs and loss of income, that isn't the case.

Every month the senior center, which supports three sites in Glennie, Greenbush and Lincoln, spends close to \$60,000 to feed seniors in Alcona County. Nearly 900 meals a week are planned, prepared and either delivered or served at the congregate sites. Twice as many meals are home delivered than served.

The meals cost between \$9 and \$10 a meal supplemented by \$2.26 from federal and state government, and \$3.50 comes from millage tax monies. The remainder (\$3.24 or \$4.24) is paid for by contributions and bingo profits.

"The contributions and bingo profits are not enough to support the cost and we are dipping into our savings to serve meals. We are looking at raising donations for meal fees 50 cents," said executive director Suzan Krey. Currently, the ACCOA has a suggested donation price for seniors 60 and over to pay \$2.50 per meal. People under 60 may eat at the center for a \$5 charge.

Krey explained senior meals are by donation and more often than not seniors receiving home delivered meals do not make any donation. "People have a misconception that their tax dollars already pay for their meal. Tax monies only pay a quarter of it," Krey said.

Federal cut backs due to the funding sequester is already affecting the federal and state monies the ACCOA re-

ceives. The ACCOA has been informed that federal funding will drop 10 percent for the rest of the year. Property value decreases have affected monies coming in from the county millage, causing a 12 percent reduction. Additionally, a 30 percent drop in donations, due to the poor economy, has been seen over the past two years.

According to census information obtained by Krey, in 1970 the population of Al-

cona County residents age 60 and over was 1,708. The 2010 census saw the county's over 60 population increase to 4,533. With the population of seniors increasing and an expected loss of over \$100,000 in revenues per year, the ACCOA is facing some serious challenges.

To complicate matters, the Lincoln site, which is the main site for the ACCOA, has long outlived its useful life expectancy, Krey said. The build-

ing, built around 1939, has had a host of purposes over the last 74 years. It was the Veteran Memorial Hall and was an elementary school. In 1978 it became the home of ACCOA.

"The building has aged and is not handicap accessible. I've looked into the question of whether to upgrade the old building or build new," Krey said, "Currently, it would cost approximately \$1.2 million to bring the existing building

to code. Just putting in a handicap ramp would mean the whole building would have to be brought up to code."

According to Krey, the disadvantages of renovating include the value of the current building not increasing as much as the cost of renovation; there is no space for expansion; no outdoor recreation area; insufficient park-

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## Youth commit random acts of peanut butter kindness

By Mary Weber  
Staff Writer

In an effort to help people in need, a ninth-grader from Alcona High School called St. Vincent De Paul to see what the organization needed most for its emergency food pantry.

The answer was peanut butter, so 14-year-old Brett Wambold of Harrisville set out on a mission to collect 100 jars of the nutty spread.

"I've lived here all my life and I know it's important to help people in need in the county," Wambold said.

He began collecting jars of peanut butter two weeks ago with the help of his cousin, sixth-grader, Emily Hoffman and friend, eleventh-grader, Taylor Zurawski. They are half way to their goal of 100 jars.

Wambold said their self-imposed goal is to reach 100 jars no matter how long it

takes, adding they would probably continue to collect even if they went over the 100 jars.

"Peanut butter is a necessary food for those in need; it doesn't need refrigeration, has a good shelf life and provides protein. It's also one of the more expensive food items for the food banks to supply and some banks can't provide it at all because of the price. We've received some jars of jam to go along with the peanut butter, which is nice, but the peanut butter is more important," Wambold said.

In addition to doing random acts of kindness by collecting peanut butter, Wambold is involved with the Alcona FFA program, 4 Club (Friends of Rachel anti-bullying club), he helps with the Parent/Teacher Organization

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Peanut butter collecting culprits (from left) Taylor Zurawski Brett Wambold and Emily Hoffman. Photo by Mary Weber.

## Local judge receives drug court hero award

By Mary Weber  
Staff Writer

A local judge has been recognized for compassion, dedication and a true interest in helping people overcome addictions to drugs so they may live useful, drug free and crime free lives.

Alcona County Probate

Judge Laura A. Frawley was given the 2013 Michigan Drug Court Hero Award recently by the Michigan Association of Drug Court Professionals (MADCP) for her work with the Alcona County Drug Sobriety Court.

Her nomination for the award came from an anyo-

mous letter which was sent to the MADCP committee, which agreed that Frawley's dedication went above and beyond the call to aide in the success of Michigan drug courts and presented the award to her at their convention last month.

The Alcona County Drug Sobriety Court, which has seen 86 participants since it began in 2005, offers an alternative to incarceration for crimes involving substance abuse issues. Participants must go through mandatory drug testing and receive counseling support.

Its success is shown by the individuals they help bring sobriety to and by how few participants return to drugs and re-enter the court system. According to Gena Yockey, drug court coordinator, the recidivism rate is a little over 14 percent for participants. Recidivism rates in regular court for drug related crime is 78 to 82 percent. She explained that for every tax dollar spent on drug court it saves \$27 tax dollars.

Yockey explained in the last six years the Alcona County Drug Sobriety Court has saved over 37 years in

jail beds which would have cost \$30 per day.

"This program speaks for itself and was so needed in our society," Yockey said. Alcona drug court has had four drug free babies born to participants, five participants got their GED, one graduated from college, two enrolled in college, three got back custody of their children and eight participants have been employed.

The letter nominating Frawley described the enormous amount of time she gave to drug court, including volunteer time, and how she truly cares, not just about the participant, but about their children and families as well while they go through the program.

The letter emphasized Frawley's high standards and said the measure of a drug court's success is how it affects human life and how that one life can move forward in a positive way. It stated Frawley allows participants of her drug court to feel they are worth the effort and time the drug court puts into their sobriety. She listens to their

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Alcona County Probate Judge Laura A. Frawley



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Letters must address the editor -- not government, the community, organizations or the authors of previously published letters.

Letters should be no longer than 300 words. Inappropriate content will be deleted and letters will run on a space available basis.

This forum is not intended as a thank you section for groups and organizations. Thank yous are considered personal messages and therefore advertising.

Drop off letters to the Alcona County Review office at 111 Lake Street, Harrisville; mail to P.O. Box 548, Harrisville, Mich. 48740; or e-mail using plain text format to editor@alconareview.com.

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**Financial** Continued from page 1

ing; heating/cooling systems are inefficient and costly and the building would be closed for business during construction.

Krey explained ongoing problems with the building - the east wall leaks periodically and floods the dining room which has caused warped floors and, from time to time, operation closure; two exterior stairways are crumbling; and there is no safe second exit -- adds to the impending concerns for ACCOA.

Other issues include bathrooms that need updating and ventilation; electrical problems with frequent breaker overloads; inefficient lighting, non-sufficient out-

lets and wiring that cannot sustain central air conditioning.

The board of directors is looking into alternate options for the Lincoln site including a study of the feasibility and mutual benefits of housing the ACCOA in buildings currently owned by the Alcona Community School District.

"Right now all options are on the table. In the meantime the ACCOA will continue to bring its very best to the seniors of Alcona County," Krey said.

The ACCOA offers many services and provides classes to the senior population in addition to meals including the needle crafters and wood carvers who meet every

Wednesday, weekly sing-alongs, exercise classes, health management activities such as weekly foot clinics and blood pressure readings, exercise classes, in-home personal care and homemaking, respite care, movie and popcorn events, bunco, bingo, computer classes, Wi-Fi accessibility and Wii electronic games.

For a complete list of services visit the ACCOA website at www.alconaseniors.org or call the Lincoln center at (989) 736-8879. The Lincoln center is located at 207 Church Street, Lincoln and is open Monday through Friday, except holidays; from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**Award** Continued from page 1

concerns. No two people are alike, so there are no two substance abuse issues alike. Frawley makes a point to pay attention to each drug court participant's individuality and needs.

The letter stated that if a participant did have a setback, Frawley never made them feel worthless. She is willing to go through the journey with them and be there for them. When they do fall, she gives them reasons to get back up and move forward with their progress.

Also described in the letter was how Frawley holds participants accountable for

their actions -- a difficult balance in a court situation -- and still allow participants to feel human and cared for.

With the assistance of Alysa Pichler, former drug court coordinator, Frawley was one of the major reasons the drug court received an expansion grant in 2010 to include Iosco and Oscoda counties into the Alcona County Drug Sobriety Court. Her vision for drug courts in the future and their need in our court system is a large factor in the successes Alcona drug court has obtained.

Frawley has also been proactive about preparing for veterans who will be returning from battle and how the staff of the Alcona drug court can be best equipped for the influx of soldiers who will need their assistance.

Frawley was pleased to receive the recognition of the award. "I have the best drug court staff in the state. Although it is my name on the award, it really belongs to the entire staff as well as our drug court participants who are the real heroes for showing up week after week and for having the courage to do all the hard work it takes to change their lives. Drug court works and is by far the most effective use of tax payers' dollars," Frawley said.

She noted the staff which comprises the Alcona County Drug Sobriety Court was part

of the reason she won the award. The staff includes: Gena Yockey, drug court coordinator; Tom Weichel, Alcona County prosecutor; David Cook, defense attorney; Gail Brege, case manager and administrative secretary; Rob Hummell, treatment provider; Glen Schwartz, treatment provider; Jim Gunderson, counselor with Shelter, Inc.; Gail Wait, case manager; Cheryl Mallot, compliance officer; Michelle Bennett, case manager; Jennifer Huebel, evaluator; Barb Luenberger, court recorder and Al Vichunas, bailiff.

Cooperation and assistance is given to the drug court by Iosco County Prosecutor, Nicole Palumbo; Oscoda County Prosecutor Cassandra Morse; Alcona County Sheriff Doug Atchison; Iosco County Sheriff Allan MacGregor; and Oscoda County Sheriff Kevin Grace, as well as law enforcement officers in each of those jurisdictions.

In addition, the drug court receives the support and contribution of the recovery community including Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, Reformers Unanimous, Smart Recovery, Celebration Recovery and many individuals in recovery who have given generously of their time to support the drug court and its participants.

**Kindness**

Continued from page 1 and is an honor roll student.

In his spare time he helps his mom, Michele Wambold, who runs a home day care and sometimes assists his grandmother, Marsha Mahalak, with her insurance company by cleaning and filing. Wambold enjoys spending time with his two younger twin sisters, Kaylee and Jena, 4-H and hunting.

Anyone wishing to donate peanut butter or would like to send a check to go towards jars of peanut butter may do so by contacting Brett Wambold at (989) 464-8322, 340 N. Mill Creek Road, Harrisville, Mich. 48740.

**Harrisville Climatological Observations for 2012-2013**

Date	Temperature (F°)		Precipitation Inches	Miles Per Hour		
	High	Low		Av. Wind Speed	High Speed	Dominant Direction
	March 31	58		32	0.12	3.5
April 1	34	23	0.00	4.1	26	N
April 2	38	18	0.00	2.2	22	WNW
April 3	43	20	0.00	3.6	24	NNE
April 4	61	27	0.00	5.3	29	SW
April 5	37	26	0.00	6.6	33	NNE
April 6	38	24	0.02	10.5	35	S

Precipitation Summary (Inches)		2012-2013	
Water Content	Snow Fall	Normal Water Content	
Weekly Total	0.14	0.2	0.50
Month of March	0.83	5.6	2.13
April to Date	0.02	0.2	0.42
Year/Season to Date	4.85	38.1	5.66

Climatological Observations taken by Stanley L. Darmofal at the Harrisville National Weather Service Coop Station located 1.8 miles NNE of Harrisville Post Office. Observations for each day are from midnight through 11:59 p.m. T=Trace (less than 0.005" Water Content.)

# Calendar of Events

*(Editor's Note: Entries for Calendar are always welcome. They will be published in chronological order as space allows. Entries should be turned in at least two weeks prior to the date of the event. Events sponsored by businesses or individuals to make a profit or governmental units for meeting notification are not eligible for this free public service. Sorry, "bingo," "garage sales" or "raffle ticket sales" information is also not eligible.)*

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

Michigan author Teresa K. Irish presents her book "A Thousand Letters Home, One World War II Soldier's Story of War, Love and Life" at 4:30 p.m. at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, 312 West Main Street. Call (989) 724-6796 for more information.

Two computers and WiFi available for seniors over 60 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. For more information, call (989) 736-8879.

Walk inside from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the upstairs hall at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. Twenty-three times around the hall equals one mile.

Needle crafters are making hats, scarves and more at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. all items will be donated to local organizations. Bring your knitting needles, looms, yarn and patterns. Beginning crafters are welcome. For more information, call (989) 736-8879.

Alcona woodcarvers meet from 2 to 4 p.m. in the upstairs hall at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. All levels of woodcarvers including beginners are welcome.

Sing-a-long at 4 p.m. at the Greenbush Township Hall, 3029 Campbell Road, Greenbush. For more information, call (989) 736-8879.

The 4-H Archery group meets at 7 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

Barton City Improvement Association will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. at the VFW Hall on Trask Lake Road. Citizens of Barton City are encouraged to attend. Plans for July 4 will be discussed.

The Alcona Democratic Party will hold their monthly breakfast meeting at 9 a.m. at the Iron Skillet Restaurant, 101 North Lake Street, Lincoln. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 11

Community Walking Club for everyone will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, 312 Main Street. For more information, call (989) 724-6796.

TOPS MI 1502 Mikado

meets at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 2531 F-30, Mikado. Weigh-in starts at 9:15 a.m. and meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. Handicap accessible. First meeting is free. For more information, call (989) 736-8022 or (989) 736-6045.

Two computers and WiFi available for seniors over 60 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. For more information, call (989) 736-8879.

Walk inside from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the upstairs hall at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. Twenty-three times around the hall equals one mile.

Blood pressure readings at 3:30 p.m. at the Greenbush Township Hall, 3029 Campbell Road by Erin from Compassionate Care.

## FRIDAY, APRIL 12

Storytime and craft for children from 10:15 to 11 a.m. at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, 312 West Main Street. Call (989) 724-6796 for more information.

There will be a fish fry from 5 to 7 p.m. at Maria Hall behind St. Anne Catholic Church in Harrisville. Cost is \$9 for adults, \$4 for children and free for age five and under. Everyone is welcome.

Two computers and WiFi available for seniors over 60 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. For more information, call (989) 736-8879.

Walk inside from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the upstairs hall at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. Twenty-three times around the hall equals one mile.

Popcorn and a movie at 2 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. For more information, call (989) 736-8879.

Alpena, Montmorency and Alcona counties Great Start Parent Group will meet at 6 p.m. at 2118 US-23, Alpena (located across the street from Pizza Hut). For more information or to reserve a place, call (989) 356-4567 extension 209.

## SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Recycle Alcona County will hold drop off day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Lincoln ARA site. Enter and exit through the north gate. For more information, call (989) 724-6546.

My Brother's Hope will be open from 10 a.m. to noon at the Harrisville United Methodist Church, 217 North State Street US-23). Lunch will be served. For more information, call Susan Armstrong (989) 724-6365.

Thunder Bay Arts Council will present a community showcase series at 7:30 p.m. at Alpena High School Audi-

torium, featuring the East Shore Wind Symphony and the Thunder Bay Symphonic Band. Door open at 7 p.m. and the cost is \$10 for adults and admission is free for students.

The Sunrise Ringers, an area-based handbell group with members from Alpena to Oscoda will perform a spring concert at 4 p.m. at the Ossineke United Methodist Church, 13095 US-23, one mile south of the light. A free will offering will be accepted. For more information, call Margaret Fox at (989) 736-3025.

## SUNDAY, APRIL 14

The Barton City Eagles Auxiliary, 671 Sanborn Road will be having an all-you-can-eat breakfast buffet from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$7 for adults, \$3 for children ages six to 12 and free for children under age six.

## MONDAY, APRIL 15

The monthly Teen Book Club will meet from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Alcona High School media center. Free books and snacks for those attending. This program is sponsored by the Alcona County Library and Friends of the Library for teens ages 12 through 18. Call (989) 724-6796 for more information.

White Pine Quilt Guild will meet at 6:30 p.m. at Hollyhock Quilt Shoppe, 301 E. Main Street, Harrisville. For more information, call C. Pizer (989) 724-6403.

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**Recycle Alcona Inc. has entered into a joint project with TRC (Thermostat Recycling Corporation) to recycle old wall-mount mercury-switch thermostats.**

All one has to do is remove it from the wall, keep the cover with it and bring it to the monthly recycle day at the ARA site and drop it off. If that is all you have there is no charge. You can also drop them off at Alcona County Building Department for no charge. This will help keep some mercury from going into the landfill.



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## Local Notes

### REMINDER

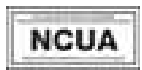
Community Dance Workshop No. 2  
**April 20 ~ 7 p.m. ~ Harrisville Township Hall**

- Loose Comfortable Clothing
- Snacks and Water Provided
- No Partner Needed

For more information, <http://www.inspirationalcona.org>  
 or call 989-335-0900

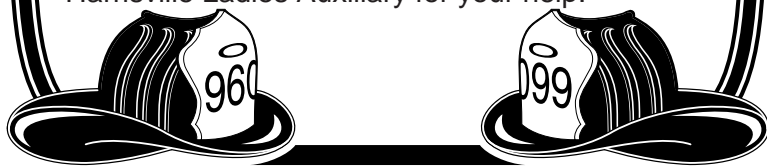


H.P.C. Credit Union's  
 New Branch Location  
**150 S. Ripley Blvd., Alpena**  
 April 16<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
 Come and say Hi!  
 Enjoy some refreshments  
 Register to win some PRIZES!!



The Harrisville Fire Fighter Department fundraiser was a great success. Thank you to all of the people that participated in this event. It was truly amazing to see the community come together and show their support for such a worthy cause. Special thanks to the following businesses for their donations:

Village Lanes, Kris-Mart, Family Dollar, BP/Subway of Harrisville, Lincoln Hardware, Harrisville Shell, Harbortown Pizza, Alcona Coffee, Richard's Pharmacy, Alcona Review, Sunrise Tool, Manus Tool, Flour Garden, Northland Credit Union, Vince Cammack of CRTC, Harrisville Lumber, Northeastern Window & Door, Haglund's, Baby Cakes, Jo Allen (Pampered Chef), Backwoods Bistro, Fick & Sons, All Risk Insurance, Lost Lake Woods Club, Janette Richardson, WTF Studio's 87.9 FM, Iron Skillet, Water Works, Glitter Tattoos/Face Painting by Bonnie, Alcona FFA and John's Home Maintenance. Thank you to all of the Fire Fighters and Harrisville Ladies Auxiliary for your help.



### Teen Book Club

Teenagers are invited to discuss "The Fault in our Stars" by John Green, a heart-wrenchingly beautiful novel about a teenage girl and boy who meet at a cancer support center, at the Teen Book Club on Monday, April 15 after school (about 3:30 p.m.) at the Alcona High School media center. This monthly book club, for ages 12-18, is sponsored by the Alcona County Library and Friends of the Library. Free book and refreshments are provided. For more information, call (989) 724-6796.

### Dining with the Docs

Interested adults are invited to attend the next session of "Dining with the Doctors," on Thursday, April 18 at noon the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library. Torey Kirkpatrick, physician assistant, will discuss new trends in treating osteoporosis. The program is limited to 20 participants; call (989) 724-6796 to register or for more information. Free lunch is included. This program is a cooperative effort through the Alcona Health Center and Alcona County Library to bring health information to Alcona citizens.

### Senior Menu

The following meals will be served at various times during the week at senior centers in Glennie, Greenbush and Lincoln. Anyone planning to attend a meal is asked to reserve a place by calling (989) 736-8879 by 10 a.m. Monday through Friday.

- Monday, April 15—Italian sausage, noodle casserole, mixed vegetables, three bean salad and fruit.

### K OF C FISH FRY

Friday, April 12  
 5-7 p.m.

Maria Hall behind St. Anne's  
**\$9 adults, \$4 children**  
**5 and under free**  
 Take Out Available

- Tuesday, April 16—Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, coleslaw and fruit cobbler.

- Wednesday, April 17—Lasagna, broccoli, tossed salad, garlic toast and fruit.

- Thursday, April 18—Baked fish, bowtie pasta salad, peas and carrots, raspberry applesauce salad and fresh fruit.

- Friday, April 19—Meatballs and gravy over noodles, corn, tropical fruit salad and fruit.

(Friday meals served in Lincoln only.)

### Grant Applications Due

The Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan (CFNEM) is accepting grant applications for youth related programs and projects through the Northeast Michigan Youth Advisory Council (NEMYAC). This is for the third quarter of the 2013 fiscal year. The application deadline is Wednesday, May 1, 2013. All 501(c)(3) non-profit agencies and organizations in the counties of Alcona, Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle are invited to apply. For more information, call Julie Wiesen at (989) 354-6881, toll free (877) 354-6881, or stop by the CFNEM office at 111 Water Street in downtown Alpena. Fillable application forms are also available online at [www.cfnem.org](http://www.cfnem.org).

### Forestry Assistance Seminar

The Alcona Conservation District's Forestry Assistance Program (FAP) will host a free outreach event detailing several techniques private forest landowners can utilize to improve wildlife habitat on their land, through active

management. The topics and management techniques covered will focus on common timber types found within Alcona and Iosco counties.

The workshop will feature Greg Berner, of the U.S. Forest Service, who will explain why oak is so difficult to regenerate and offer suggestions on how to promote the future success of oak species. Sierra Patterson, of the U.S. Forest Service, will recommend plant species to establish and invasive species to avoid for enhancing wildlife diversity. Brian Piccolo, of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, will discuss differing wildlife habitat(s) with an emphasis on jack pine ecosystems. Heather Rawlings, of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will describe the benefits of maintaining early successional forests through management.

The workshop will take place from 1 to 5 p.m. on Friday, April 26 at Alpena Community College — Oscoda Campus, 5800 North Skeel Street, Oscoda. This event is free and informational handouts and snacks will be available. The "Improving Wildlife Habitat Through Active Management" workshop is being made possible by partnership with the following organizations: U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

To register call, (989) 335-1056, (989) 724-5272 or e-mail [john.st.pierre@macd.org](mailto:john.st.pierre@macd.org). Registration deadline is April 24. Anyone who needs an accommodation to participate in this event, should call no later than April 22. Visit [www.alconaconservation.org](http://www.alconaconservation.org) or call the number above for more details.

## Spring workshops offer research and information for Lake Huron fishery

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR), in partnership with Michigan Sea Grant, Michigan State University Extension, USGS Great Lakes Science Center and local fishery organizations, will offer three regional workshops this spring highlighting research and information about Lake Huron's fishery.

Workshops are free and open to the public, and will provide information for anglers, charter captains, resource professionals and other community members interested in attending.

Lake Huron fish populations and angler catch data, the resurgence of native species such as Lake Huron walleye, low water levels, forage fish surveys and results from the Lake Huron predator diet study, updates on fisheries management activities, and other related topics will be the focus of these workshops.

The 2013 Lake Huron fishery workshop dates and locations include:

- Uby/Bad Axe, Mich. -- Thursday, April 18, from 6 to 9 p.m. Uby Fox Hunter's Club located at 2153 Uby Road, Uby, Mich.

- Oscoda -- Wednesday, April 24, from 6 to 9 p.m. Wiltse's Family Restaurant located at 5606 F-41, Oscoda.

- Cedarville, Mich. -- Thursday, April 25, from 6 to 9 p.m. Les Cheneaux Sportsman's Club located at M-134 in Cedarville, Mich.

Workshops are no cost to participants; however, pre-registration is requested. To register for any of these workshops, contact Val Golding, Michigan Sea Grant/MSU Extension, Alpena County, at (989) 354-9870 or [goldingv@alpenacounty.org](mailto:goldingv@alpenacounty.org).

For program information or questions, contact Brandon Schroeder, Michigan Sea Grant at (989) 354-1056 or [schroe45@msu.edu](mailto:schroe45@msu.edu).

Workshop registration and details are available on the Michigan Sea Grant website at [www.miseagrant.umich.edu/explore/fisheries/fishery-workshops](http://www.miseagrant.umich.edu/explore/fisheries/fishery-workshops).

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# Local pool tournaments for MDA raise \$300,000 over last 16 years

Pool players, business owners, supporters and friends and family members of individuals who have neuromuscular diseases who are supported by the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) came together again this year to raise money to help residents in northeast Michigan.

In its 16<sup>th</sup> year Cue for a Cure, concluded with tournament playoffs which were held at the Oscoda Eagles Aerie on Saturday, April 6.

Winners of a series of pool tournaments held at taverns in Alcona, Alpena and Iosco counties in February and March faced off during the afternoon and evening last Saturday.

This year's combined events generated a total of \$13,696.45. Chief's Bar and Grill in Alpena raised \$550; Dry Dock in Alpena raised \$1,878; Oscoda Eagles in Oscoda raised \$2,470; The Edelweiss in Oscoda raised \$3,092 and the Mikado Tavern in Mikado raised \$4,146.45.

The Mikado Tavern earned the title of "Top Bar" for generating the most funds raised. Not only does the Mikado Tavern hold the title of "Top Bar" for 2013 and will host the playoffs at the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Cue for the Cure in 2014, but the pool playing duo from Mikado Tavern -- Pat Reames and Rita Sands -- hold the title of "King and Queen" of the Cure by winning the pool tournament.

In the 16 years in which this event has been held to raise awareness and funds for the Muscular Dystrophy Association over \$300,000 has been raised in northeast Michigan.

That milestone was reached by the end of the playoff event where an auction was held with items donated from individuals and businesses. At the beginning of the auction the goal of raising \$300,000 was short by \$1,570. However, the generosity of pool players and supporters -- a Detroit Tiger's

shirt was auctioned off the back of a participant, a head was shaved for donations and bidding wars increased for auction items -- the goal was met and exceeded by \$14 dollars ending with \$300,014.68 earned over 16 years.

The pool tournament event is a signature fundraising program, benefiting local individuals living with muscular dystrophy, ALS and related progressive muscle diseases in northeastern Michigan.

Spruce resident and MDA Spokespatient Amy Stevens, who founded the event 16 years ago, spoke at Saturday's playoff event. "It is all of the northeastern Michigan community doing all the things that make the Cue for a Cure a success each year. It is all of you who are supporting our own area patients and who help to fund research going on in Michigan. You are not only playing a game of pool, but funding critical services provided by MDA to local patients.

"It is you who give us hope that treatments will be found and that hope gives us reason to keep fighting," she said.

The event will also help send youngsters to a special week at MDA summer camp at YMCA Camp Sherman Lakes in Augusta, Mich. Youngsters with muscle diseases, as well as the many volunteers who help create magic at MDA summer camp each year, enjoy a wide variety of activities designed specifically for youngsters with limited mobility. Some activities include horseback riding, swimming, football and arts and crafts.

MDA is a nonprofit health agency dedicated to curing muscular dystrophy, ALS and related diseases by funding worldwide research. The association also provides health care services; advocates for families it serves; and invests resources educating the medical and scientific com-

munities, as well as the general public about neuromuscular diseases affecting more than one million Americans.

MDA maintains a nationwide network of some 200 hospital affiliated clinics, 38 of which are designed as MDA/ALS centers, that provide medical and health care services to adults and children with neuromuscular diseases. Families in northeastern Michigan are encouraged to visit the MDA clinics at McLaren Regional in Flint, Mich., Mary Free Bed in Grand Rapids, Mich., Michigan State University in East Lansing, Mich., and the University of Michigan's pediatric clinic and the ALS center in Farmington Hills, Mich. at Michigan Institute of Neurological Disorders.

For more information about the Cue for the Cure, contact Syndi Fornwalt at (989) 771-9612 or sfornwalt@mmdausa.org.

## Bowling Scores

### Early Bloomers

April 2

Daffodils	189	123
Marigolds	177	135
Tigerlilies	169.5	142.5
Violets	158.5	153.5
Rosebuds	157	145
Mums	143.5	168.5
Buttercups	133	179
Bluebells	120.5	191.5
High game and series:	Carla Travis, 178 and 500.	
High team game and series:	Daffodils, 465 and 1,341.	

### Huron

April 2

Gary Oil	21	82
Back Alley Bar	15	73
Robert's Floor.	9	71
Shotmakers	10	66
Rob's Repair	22	63
B & D Sales	20	52
Mancino's	15	40.5
Harrisville Lum.	8	32.5
High game:	Dave Baker, 279.	
High series:	Dave Glazar, 749.	
High handicap game:	Dave Baker, 315.	
High handicap series:	Dave Glazar, 875.	



Alcona Head Start children and their families visited Village Lanes Bowling Alley in Harrisville for a spring field trip recently. It was a new experience for many of the children. Owner, Frank Belloli, shows some the children how to bowl. *Courtesy photo.*

They are only treasures if you have them. Please pick up your photos from the Alcona County Review, 111 Lake Street, Harrisville.

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# Natural resources trust helps two northeast Michigan communities

Recreational facilities in Alcona and Presque Isle counties were successful in the latest round of Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund (MNRTF) grant appropriations.

Last week, Gov. Rick Snyder signed the law for Caledonia Township in Alcona County to receive \$245,000 for its Hubbard Lake North End Park Development project.

The nine-acre North End Park in Caledonia Township has approximately 500 feet of frontage on Hubbard Lake with a public boat launch and swimming access. The project includes two pavilions, bathrooms, shoreline protection, beach volleyball, a well, electricity, lighting, a

platform for beach viewing and landscape furniture.

Metz Township is getting \$111,600 for its Metz Fire Trailside Park Development project. The Metz Fire Historical Trailside Park is an undeveloped parcel of land that will be turned into a community park and trailhead for the North Eastern State Trail (NEST). The project includes year-round parking for cars and trailers, restrooms, a well, a large pavilion for picnicking, interpretive signs and other amenities for the community and trail users.

The two projects are part of 76 recreation development projects and land acquisitions totaling \$23 million to be funded in 2013. There were

142 applications seeking \$37.8 million from the MNRTF.

"These projects will help these sites reach their potential to provide residents and tourists more Pure Michigan recreational opportunities in our region," said Representative Peter Pettalia, (R-Presque Isle).

The trust fund was created in 1976 to balance conservation management and oil and gas drilling on state-managed land. More than \$965 million has been awarded throughout all 83 Michigan counties.

For more information about the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund visit [www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr-grants).

# Medicaid expansion would increase veterans' health options

By Michael Gerstein  
Capital News Service

While the state legislature wrestles with a recent house decision not to expand state health care for poor families through the Medicaid program, experts say roughly 20,000 veterans will also be left uninsured if the decision sticks.

"They're going to be left out in the cold," said Jan Hudson, a health care policy analyst for the Michigan League for Public Policy, which does research and advocacy regarding social issues like poverty, education and health.

The house recently rejected Gov. Rick Snyder's proposal to expand Medicaid coverage despite available federal funding for the program.

According to the league,

veterans in rural areas would benefit the most from the expansion because they would be able to use local hospitals in addition to sometimes-distant VA clinics.

According to the league, there are 19 rural counties with federal community-based health clinics for veterans, yet there are 57 rural counties with veterans.

Most of those communities are within 30 to 40 miles of a veteran health facility, according to the Michigan Department of Veterans and Military Affairs. But Hudson said even that's an impossible distance for veterans who are sick or without transportation. "If there's a facility that's 30 miles away, that's a real problem," she said.

There are also five VA medical centers in Michigan -- Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Detroit, Iron Mountain and Saginaw. The Iron Mountain facility has the largest geographic coverage area, acting as the only VA medical center in the Upper Peninsula, though there are five smaller outpatient clinics in the U.P. and one in Wisconsin.

A Medicaid expansion would allow veterans to receive care at local hospitals, cutting down necessary travel distance.

But specialists are rare in remote areas of the state -- not just for veterans, but for residents in general -- a point acknowledged by the Michigan Department of Human Services. "There are shortage problems," said the department's public information officer, Angela Minicuci. "They have to drive a long distance to get to specialists."

Still, the department said there are more VA health clinics than ever before. And new measures have been taken to offer treatment.

Someone who's seen those measures firsthand is Patrick Kline, an American Legion field officer. He files medical claims for veterans, ping-ponging from Bay City to Alpena, and St. Clair to Mackinac, then to the Upper Penin-

sula every week.

Kline says that while VA hospitals were "terrible" in the past, they've improved dramatically. And subsequent travel times have dropped as more clinics opened. "To be honest with you, I don't like going to a private hospital anymore because you get treated so much better" at a veterans clinic, Kline said.

Reaffirming that point is Patrick Lafferty, the chief administrative officer for the Michigan American Legion. He said there's been a "180-degree turnaround" in medical availability since the 1980s, when the only veterans clinic in the U.P. was the Iron Mountain facility.

With VA clinics now in smaller outside cities in Michigan like Grayling, Cadillac and Mackinaw City, many vets are racking up fewer odometer miles to get care.

And when they need a specialist, they can go into the local clinic and use Telehealth Care. That's basically a long-distance checkup via the Internet. And 25 percent of patients at the Iron Mountain-based Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center used it in 2012.

Far-away specialists can inspect rashes or infections, injuries or old war wounds, both physical and psychological. And the Iron Mountain center was one of the first in the nation to start using the online system in 1996.

A major problem is that veterans from, say, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. still might have to travel nearly 400 miles to Milwaukee, Wisc., to see a specialist, said Brad Nelson, public information officer for Oscar G. Johnson.

The clinic in Sault Ste. Marie, Mich. -- an Oscar G. Johnson outpatient clinic -- doesn't offer many of the same services as the Milwaukee VA Medical Center, Nelson explained. He said that's sim-

Continued on page 10

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# SENIOR LIFESTYLES

## How to shop for a hearing aid

Dear Savvy Senior,  
What tips can you offer people who are shopping for hearing aids?

Overwhelmed Senior

Dear Overwhelmed,

With so many choices and options available today, shopping for a hearing aid that meets your needs, lifestyle and budget can be challenging. Here are some tips that can help you locate a good hearing aid provider and choose an appropriate aid.

Choose a Provider

The first step in buying a hearing aid is to choose a good provider. The best option - as recommended by Consumer Reports - is an otolaryngologist (an ear, nose and throat doctor) who employs an audiologist that fits and dispenses hearing aids.

An otolaryngologist will first examine your ears and rule out any medical conditions such as a tumor, bacte-

rial infection or ear wax that can affect your hearing. Medicare will cover the medical exam and an audiologist's test if ordered by a physician.

If you can't find a conveniently located doctor's office that dispenses aids, an independent audiologist or hearing instrument specialist is a good alternative. To search for these professionals in your area, see [howyourhear-ing.org](http://howyourhear-ing.org) and [ihsinfo.org](http://ihsinfo.org). Big box retailers like Wal-Mart and Costco also sell hearing aids.

Or, if you're a veteran, be sure to check with your nearest VA health facility. Eligible veterans may be able to get hearing aids for free.

After you locate a provider, when you go in for your first visit you need to be prepared to discuss your lifestyle and hearing needs. For example: Do you just want to hear the TV, or other people speaking? Do you talk on the phone

a lot? Do you need to hear in a lot of noisy places, like restaurants? Knowing your priorities will help your provider determine what style and hearing aid technology is best for you.

You'll also be given a hearing test in a soundproof booth to determine what type of hearing loss you have. After the test, your provider should give you a choice of hearing aid brands, features and styles to consider.

To help you decide, ask for a demonstration. Many providers are able to put a disposable plug on the tip of a behind-the-ear hearing aid and program the device to your hearing loss so you can experience how it works.

Also ask about popular add-on features like "telecoils" that helps with phone conversations, "directional microphones" that can help you hear in noisy places, and "feedback cancellation" that prevents the aid from

squealing when you get too close to other audio equipment. But, keep in mind that the extra features will drive up the price.

After you buy your hearing aid, don't leave the office without making sure it physically fits your ear and that it does what you want it to do. To help with this, ask to have a "real-ear" test which measures the match between your hearing loss and the response of your hearing aid.

Also get a signed copy of a contract that outlines the hearing aid you're buying, along with the price, trial period, any nonrefundable fees and the warranty. Most manufacturers allow a 30 to 60-day trial period to be sure you're satisfied, and provide follow-up visits to help you with needed adjustments or questions.

You also need to know that digital hearing aids are expensive, typically costing between \$1,000 and \$3,500 per

Savvy Senior

ear, and they're not covered by traditional Medicare or most private insurance companies. To look for help, call the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders at (800) 241-1044 and ask them to mail you their list of financial resources for hearing aids.

For more hearing aid information, get a copy of the "Consumer's Guide to Hearing Aids" for \$5.50 plus shipping at [hearingloss.org](http://hearingloss.org), or call (301) 657-2248.

(Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit [SavvySenior.org](http://SavvySenior.org).)



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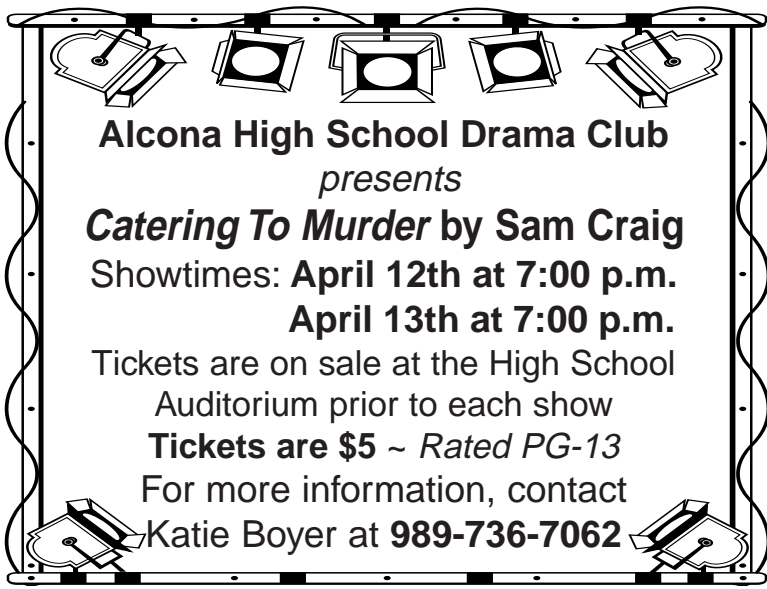
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# Dates and nuts

## Puttin' On The Fritz



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**By Kathryn Fritz Kniep**  
Columnist

Every now and then you run across something that gives you hope that perhaps the world will go on. That was the case this week with a report on the morning news that young people are tired of "hooking up," so popular the past few decades, and like the idea of a return to conventional dating.

Right off the bat, let me apply a couple of footnotes to this news: 1.) One assumes the majority of the young people in question are women, since men have never been especially fond of the process of dating, conventional or otherwise. 2.) While "hooking up" has many definitions, it generally refers to a highly casual social interaction that begins with running into someone after the dinner hour and ends with breakfast.

I find it highly unlikely that this generation of young people, no matter how inspired, will engage in conventional dating in the manner my friends and I did. Nonetheless, as a member of possibly the last pre-hookup generation and for historical and sociological purposes, I thought it might be interesting to let them know how it went back in "the day." Like most things in the early 1960s there were some distinct rules, largely propagated by mothers and enforced by fathers.

In order to truly understand what it was like back then, it's necessary to realize that we did not have the Internet, Facebook, or cell phones. We didn't tweet, instant message or text. In these dark ages, we relied for communication principally on the wall telephone (located in the kitchen) or, for extremely pampered young women, the Princess phone

with light-up dial. These were usually pink and located in their very own bedroom (though not mine).

None of these phones were cordless and all of them were interconnected as "extensions" allowing whoever picked up another phone instant access to your conversation.

So, in the fullness of time, a young man made one of those phones ring. In those pre-liberated days, only the boy could call. Girls who called boys were considered "fast" or even "wild," and our mothers assured us that the boys really didn't like such bold behavior. I've never personally checked out that claim. On the other hand, I didn't dial a boy's number until I went to college.

Anyway, after a minute or two of fairly stiff small talk, the boy in question asked if you would like to go with him to a specific event on Friday night. (A movie, the football game, a dance - in escalating order of importance). The girl in question then had two options. She could say yes, aiming for a casual tone, or she could say she was washing her hair on Friday night.

This was part of "being nice" a concept mothers were very big on. You could not, under any circumstances, say "I'd rather grow old alone with 14 cats than go to the movie with you, Frank."

If you invoked the "washing my hair" answer, some additional rules came into play. You were then honor bound not to go out on Friday night with another boy. You could go to the game with a group of girlfriends, but common decency called for you to at least wet down your head first.

If you said "yes," it came with the cautionary clause, "if I can." This involved either arranging for the boy to call you back (because boys made the calls) after you consulted your parents or letting him know at lunch hour the next day.

Parents, as far as I could tell, based their decision on a number of factors including their opinion of the boy, whether they had plans for the evening that involved needing a babysitter, your grade point average, the accomplishment of certain chores and your score on the Everyparent Teenager Maturity Test. Once a decision was made, there was little chance of leave to appeal on any basis.

All of this (along with a lot of time selecting an outfit that would knock the boy in question's socks off but in which your father would still allow you to leave the house) eventually led up to Friday evening, whereupon the boy in question arrived at your door.

At your door. Not in the driveway, honking the horn. Mothers universally took a very dim view of horn-honkers. At this point your date (for such he now was) was expected to cross your threshold, come in and "meet

your parents." In a small town such as Harrisville, this was required despite the fact that your parents knew the young man in question and all of his cousins and were, in fact, playing bridge with the doctor the night his mother went into labor with him.

The interlude, however, gave your father an opportunity to determine exactly what the boy's plans for the evening were and exactly what time he was expected to have you back on home soil. It also gave dad a chance to check out the vehicle he would be transporting the beloved daughter in.

While this was usually a dad's Buick or a mom's Capri, my father in particular was mildly unnerved by station wagons and downright panicked by vans, parental or otherwise. During these particularly fraught five-minutes, the date was also frequently punched on the arm by older siblings and drooled on by younger ones.

Finally, after a planning and launch period lasting only 48 to 72 hours, you at last escaped into the twilight of a Friday night and your date began. If it resulted in a repeat performance with the same boy, eventually the whole process became somewhat more casual, although never to the point of horn-honking and rarely to the satisfaction of hypervigilant fathers.

And then, you repeated the process over a period of years - until such time as the Fates decided you had kissed enough toads and sent your prandsome hince or you decided to just give it up and settle for having the cleanest hair in the county. Really, it was sometimes even fun.

Oh and did I mention that while only the boy could call, he also was expected to pay for everything? Everything. And sometimes, to also bring flowers. The young woman in question was only expected to be nice in all of its definitions, and a good listener.

So despite my liberated leanings, I have to commend the young women in question for their desire to return (at least in part) to the way things were. I suspect if that's what they want, they will eventually get it. Women, after all, tend to set the rules for these things.

And, frankly, I think these girls are on to something.

(Kathryn Kniep has contributed to the Alcona County Review for more than 30 years. She has published fiction, nonfiction and poetry in several venues. She and her husband, Art, live in Harrisville. The couple has one daughter, Katrina - "the Princess," two dogs, Lady and Henry, and granddog, Bastian, all of whom are frequent victims of her column.)



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Answers

BELL	USA	SA	TDS	SHALT
ONLY	POLLO	HAW	HALEH	
CRASS	CUTTER	ELI	ASONE	
HOMES	THRU	SKIN	CRAFTS	
CLAD	TO	HEART	GHETTOS	
OSS	VOA	DENO	VO	
	CLEF	CLAMOR	USLIFE	
MEMOIR	DRY	WET	AIMAT	
CRATED	GHE	SE	ESTRADA	
MIC	DREAD	TUTS	HEAL	
LEAN	FLBOW	CRFAS	FSOWS	
ROSS	ISAY	ENOLA	SEA	
ABOLISH	CRAVE	ILLNESS		
RENAL	ORO	MER	FOURTH	
CLINT	INTHEE	YE	MITT	
	CFSSNA	OIS	DST	
PASSEY	CROUP	THERAPY		
ELMERS	GLUE	INTO	SEGAL	
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# A life lesson on silence

By Cheryl Peterson  
Editor

I almost didn't recognize the tiny, frail woman propped up in the bed. Buried under a mound of blankets, Cindy blinked twice and whispered a greeting as I walked into the living room. The hospital bed was placed where her recliner had been, next to a picture window that overlooked the front yard. A walker and a wheelchair leaned against the opposite wall.

I pushed a kitchen chair closer to the bed and sat down. She closed her eyes and leaned back against the pillow exhausted from that little effort. Her partner and caregiver, Kim, breezed in offering me something to drink. I declined. The last thing I wanted was her waiting on me.

Kim disappeared around the corner into the kitchen, still talking, barely taking a breath, as she ran water in the sink for dishes and moved to the kitchen table to fold items in the laundry basket sitting there. I glanced at Cindy to see if she was sleeping while Kim talked about the decision to take Cindy to the hospital several days before, that she was diagnosed with an infection, the visitors who came, the decision to discontinue chemotherapy treatment after a body scan found her cancer had grown and spread and the decision to bring in hospice.

Succinct, rapid fire sentences fell into line behind each other as Kim talked so matter of factly, she could have been talking about the snowstorm that had passed through recently.

"Kim, I'd love a drink," Cindy said, barely breaking out of a whisper. "Lemonade or grape juice?" Kim asked as she moved back into the kitchen, turned off the faucet and reached for a glass. She waited. Eyes still closed, Cindy's face crumpled in concentration for a few seconds, reaching a decision she said, "grape juice." Kim moved to the opposite side of the bed with the glass, arranged the straw as Cindy reached for it. "I can do it," Cindy said taking the glass. Slowly, deliberately she sipped juice. She sighed when Kim said, "We have to check your blood sugar and you need to start thinking about eating something - whatever you want - soon."

After another long sip Cindy set the glass on the narrow table next to the bed and leaned back again, eyes closed. As Kim moved back into the kitchen she ran through a list of food choices - soup, scrambled egg, sandwich... at each option Cindy's brow furrowed deeper, dismissing each suggestion. It was an unpleasant chore to think about food. She wasn't hungry. Kim launched into another conversational story about the insulin pump that Cindy had for 13 years and how it was removed once the paperwork for hospice was completed. Someone had decided she wasn't able to deal with it, so now they had to administer insulin manu-

ally... one more thing that Cindy had lost control over.

After a few minutes Kim interrupted herself and asked Cindy again what she wanted to eat. "A scrambled egg," was the answer. Kim set to making it happen.

As I sat there watching and listening, and occasionally contributing to the conversation, I couldn't help but flashback to two years earlier (almost to the day, I realized later) - I was Kim flitting around with a hundred things to do, trying to offer comfort to the visitor who didn't quite know what to say while my mom dozed on and off during - what I didn't know then - was the last month of her life. I knew it was close, but couldn't gauge how much time was left.

I was busy making sure she ate and took her medication; busy washing dishes, doing laundry, running errands, grocery shopping, paying bills, making calls to let people know they should visit sooner than later; busy watching and evaluating her comfort level; busy scheduling visits so she wouldn't get too tired; busy making sure the nurses and aides came when they said they would and did what they were supposed to do; busy asking questions and being frustrated at the lack of information provided.

I was busy trying to control something that could not be controlled. No matter how well I executed each and every task, I wasn't going to win. The result would still be the same. After being in the trenches, so to speak, in this type of war, I realized how complex the caregiver/patient relationship is. She was dealing with the loss of several things at once - she had lost the hope of an extended future. She wasn't going to be able to do all of the things she had planned to do - someday. While no one knows when they will die, she knew it would be much sooner than she had hoped it would be.

She was dealing with the fact that her body was slowly betraying her by deteriorating under the disease she was still mentally and spiritually fighting. Probably most upsetting to her was the loss of her independence. There is nothing more disheartening than having to rely on someone else to get through the day. Simple tasks like walking to the mailbox, fixing a sandwich, bathing by herself and getting in and out of bed became the responsibility of someone else - her daughter and, near the end, her son and daughter-in-law and friends who helped - people she didn't want to burden.

While I watched her deal with her losses, I was trying not to think about what my life would be like without her in it.

As her caregiver, I was walking a fine line between doing too much or not doing enough. I needed to know when to do something for her or when to let her do it herself, even if she didn't want to. I was under the self-imposed stress of trying to do

## Over the Dune

the right thing, but feeling inadequate because I was certain there was more I could do.

Even the best mother-daughter relationships can be complicated - even challenging at times, however, when the relationship turns into the mother having a terminal illness and the daughter becoming her caregiver - well, let's just say that can add an entire dimension of complexity. It can be stressful and frustrating and endearing, tender and loving - all at the same time. It is also very sobering when the relationship shifts and the daughter becomes the parent to her mother.

My mom was the type of woman who liked things done the way she wanted them done - period. And, she wasn't shy about telling anyone how to do what she wanted done. That can be an endearing trait - mostly, when it's not your mom "bossing" you around.

I remember being extremely frustrated one morning when she requested French toast for breakfast and then proceeded to tell me how to do it - every, single, step of the way - even to the point of which plate to use. I remember thinking then, and later, ranting about it to a friend, "I am a grown woman. I know how to make French toast. I've made it a hundred times or more. Why does she insist on telling me how to do everything?"

My friend, who is a parent, gave me the answer from a parent's perspective - something I didn't have. "In her eyes you'll always be her little girl."

My response to that heartfelt and thoughtful answer was, "But, I already know how to make French toast. What I need her to teach me is how I can help her die. How do I do that?"

Of course, there isn't an answer for that question. At least not one that can be articulated succinctly and executed as easily as making French toast... crack three eggs, beat them well, add a tablespoon of milk...

I was essentially watching for death and suppressing the underlying fear of recognizing it and being able to help her face it with grace and dignity. I didn't know if I had that kind of strength... I didn't want to fail her.

In the last stages of her battle, my mom and I did not have one of those moments that are depicted in the movies where the dying mother holds her daughter's hand and tells her everything she wants her to remember after she is gone. We were too busy for that - I was busy fighting an unwinnable war and she was busy slipping into the place between here and there.

We had many conversa-

Continued on page 10

### NOTICE

Millen Township is now accepting sealed bids for the clean-up and mowing of Maple Ridge Cemetery and Barton City Community Park. Bidders must be bonded and insured. Final bids must be received by May 3, 2013. For further information, please contact Millen Township Clerk Jan Hoonstra at (989) 735-2067.

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**Medicaid** Continued from page 6

ply the nature of outpatient facilities. But, "We are really working hard to provide the best care possible to our veterans in a rural setting," he said.

To cope with distance and lack of transportation for some, Disabled American Veterans (DAV) – a nonprofit group – offers volunteer-operated vans to transport patients to veteran facilities.

In 2012, it trucked 297,848 miles, making stops in Sault Ste. Marie, Marquette, Houghton, Ironwood and Ontonagon multiple times every week. The VA also operates two 16-passenger buses, which run three routes, traveling up to 100 miles from Iron Mountain.

But he said the DAV vans can't take wheelchairs or oxygen tanks. Nelson said he didn't know how many veterans were unable to travel to medical centers.

Overall, some 500,000

more Michigan residents would receive health care if the legislature agrees to accept federal money for a Medicaid increase. That includes 21,500 new veterans and 10,300 of their relatives, who aren't covered by VA health care.

Ari Adler, Republican press secretary for the House, said GOP lawmakers are concerned because full federal funding for the program will

last for three years, after which the federal government would cover 90 percent of the expansion. He said it's difficult to pull people off Medicaid.

Kurt Weiss from the governor's communications office said Snyder still stands by his proposal for Medicaid expansion. It's currently stalled in the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Human Services.

**Silence** Continued from page 9

tions where she reminisced about her life... people she loved and lost; things she did and would do again; things she'd do differently. Her memories didn't always align with mine – they had taken on a rose-colored tint, but that was okay. They were her memories.

We did have many moments of comfortable silence... the type of silence that settles softly, filling any void – real or imagined – like moonlight on a warm summer night. This type of silence allows hearts to speak to each other without the noise of words, without the buzz of unspoken thoughts. This type of silence allows unresolved issues to dissipate, forgives transgressions and wipes slates full of "should haves" and "could haves" clean. It is for this comfortable silence that I am grateful.

In the end, my mom did teach me how to help her die. It wasn't a lesson in words, though. It was a lesson in doing. Despite the death sentence handed down with the diagnosis of "stage four – terminal" she got out of bed every day for two years, got dressed and did what she always did – faced life head on. Each day was a struggle.

Sometimes she flinched. Sometimes she crumbled. Sometimes she won. Either way the end result was going to be the same – however, for quite a while – thanks to a positive response to the course of treatment, good medical care and support from her family and friends – she was able to enjoy the time she had left.

As I watched Cindy struggle to eat her scrambled egg and Kim standing by her bedside ready to help any way she could, I realized – probably for the millionth time in the last two years – how lucky we were to have two full years with Mom after that fateful diagnosis. I will be eternally grateful for that time.

Silently, I said a prayer for Kim and Cindy – that they too would be supported by friends and family, have the time to say what needs to be said and, most of all, have many moments of comfortable silence.

(Cheryl Peterson is a native of Oscoda and a graduate of Northern Michigan University. She was the editor of two daily newspapers before moving to Harrisville in 1995 when she and her husband, John Boufford, purchased the Review.)

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

9	8	4	1	6	3	2	7	5
5	7	3	2	8	4	1	9	6
1	6	2	9	5	7	8	4	3
6	3	7	8	4	9	5	2	1
4	9	1	5	3	2	7	6	8
2	5	8	6	7	1	9	3	4
7	1	6	3	2	8	4	5	9
3	4	9	7	1	5	6	8	2
8	2	5	4	9	6	3	1	7

Community Grants

In March, the board of trustees of the Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan (CFNEM) approved the following grants:

- Case Township was awarded \$1,250 (\$850 from the Community Endowment Fund and \$400 from the Presque Isle County General Fund) for the portable PA system project.
- St. Ignatius School was awarded \$950 from the Ann M. Kuntz Fund for the engaging math and science students with interactive whiteboards project.
- Curtis Township Library was awarded \$1,000 from the Community Endowment Fund for the mini-computer lab.
- Alcona County Library was awarded \$3,000 from the Community Endowment Fund for the furniture for the library project.
- Food Bank of Eastern Michigan—awarded \$3,000 (\$2,379 from the Community Endowment Fund and \$621 from the Wayne Wire Cloth Fund) for the school pantry in Hillman Community Schools.
- AuSable Free Clinic, Inc. was awarded \$400 from the

Montmorency County General Fund for the Montmorency County Access to free health care project.

- Department of Human Services (DHS) was awarded \$500 from the Community Endowment Fund for the record a story children's books project.
- VitalCare/Hospice of the Sunrise Shore was awarded \$2,200 from the Community Endowment Fund for the volunteer program.
- Northeast Michigan Community Partnership, Inc. was awarded \$500 from the Community Endowment Fund for the Circle of Parents Support Group.
- Habitat for Humanity of Northeast Michigan was awarded \$2,500 from the Community Endowment Fund for the tool replacement project.
- Friends of Thunderhead, Inc. was awarded \$2,000 from the Community Endowment Fund for the electronic communications link project.
- Alzheimer's Association was awarded \$750 from the Community Endowment Fund for the "What's Hap-

Continued on page 13

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# Alcona County Sheriff's Report

## For the Week of April 1-7, 2013

52 complaints were handled resulting in the following arrests: 1 Arrest; 1 Warrant.

### Complaint Statistic

Car-Deer Accident	12	Property Damage Accident	2
Miscellaneous	4	Agency Assist	3
Dog/Animal	5	Traffic	1
Alarm	2	Identity Theft	1
Drugs	1	Harassment/Threats/Stalking	1
Patrol Check	2	Warrant Arrest	1
Civil	1	Neighbor Trouble	1
Overdose	1	Medical	1
Personal Injury Accident	1	Assault & Battery	1
Larceny	2	Fraud	1
Lost/Found Property	1	Noise Complaint	1
Suspicious Events	2		
Gunshots Heard	1		

### Complaints taken by City, Township or Village

Alcona	2	Caledonia	7	Curtis	5
Greenbush	6	Gustin	1	Harrisville	6
Hawes	0	Haynes	6	Mikado	3
Millen	2	Mitchell	6		
Harrisville City	4	Village of Lincoln	4		

## History Corner



Irene Meier Geiersbach of Lincoln shared these two photographs with readers. Her mother, Ethel Meier, herself and siblings Lois and Herman, lived on Trask Lake. Their mother had a boat rental for residents and visitors. These photos were taken in the late 1930s. Her brother, Herman, who was 13 or so then, was helping visitors from the Detroit, Mich. area with the fish they caught that day on Trask Lake. Her sister, Lois David, lives in Prescott, Mich.



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10. Connecticut

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## Youth Grants

The Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan (CFNEM) Board of Trustees approved the following grants in March from the Kellogg Youth Fund as recommended by the Youth Advisory Council.

### Alcona County

- Food Bank of Eastern Michigan was awarded \$1,200 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the Alcona Backpack program.
- Mikado Township/Goodfellows was awarded \$250 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the No Child Without a Christmas project.
- Alcona Health Center was awarded \$175 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the Safe Sitter Program.

### Alpena County

- Alpena Public Schools/Sanborn Elementary was awarded \$450 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the developing independent readers with the Daily 5 and Accelerated Reader project.
- Alpena Public Schools/Thunder Bay Junior High School was awarded \$400 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for an Elmo visual device.
- Alpena Public Schools/Sanborn Elementary was awarded \$400 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the Technological Improvements for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classroom/Elmo visual device project.

## Grants

Continued from page 10

pening to Grandpa?" project.

- Northeast Michigan Council of Governments (NEMCOG) was awarded \$3,000 from the Community Endowment Fund for the northeast Michigan Regional Kitchen Incubator project.
- Northeast Michigan Center for Fine Arts/Art in the Loft was awarded \$3,000 from the Community Endowment Fund for the Culinary Arts Center project.
- Great Lakes Light House Festival, Inc. was awarded \$1,000 from the Community Endowment Fund for the youth education project.

The Community Foundation for Northeast Michigan, established in 1974, awards nearly \$100,000 each year through its Common Grant Application. For granting purposes, the Community Endowment Fund consists of the General Endowment Fund, Genite Family Fund, Chuck and Kathy Ingle Fund, Lappan Fund, Neva Nelson Memorial Fund, Panel Processing Endowment Fund, Reitz Family Fund, Stevens Fund, Weinkauff Fund and the Wilson Family Fund.

Additional funding through the Common Grant Application is available from the following restricted funds: Alcona County General Fund, Mr. and Mrs. O.B. Eustis Memorial Fund, Huron Shores Health Fund, Ann M. Kuntz Fund, Montmorency County General Fund, Presque Isle County General Fund and Wayne Wire Cloth Fund.

- Bingham Arts Academy was awarded \$500 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the March with literacy and science with Paleo Joe project.
- Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) was awarded \$800 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the MDA Summer Camp Project 2013.
- Alpena Public Schools/Alpena High School was awarded \$2,192 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the yearbook technology update project.
- Alpena Public Schools/Alpena High School was awarded \$1,500 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the 2013 graduating T-shirts to college project.

### Montmorency County

- Atlanta Community Schools was awarded \$1,000 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the fifth and sixth-grade science camp program.
- Hillman Community Schools/High School was awarded \$500 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the high school welding program development.
- Atlanta Community Schools/High School Newspaper Class was awarded \$200 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the school newspaper for grades 7-12.
- Hillman Community Schools/Hillman Elementary was awarded \$400 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the

iPad classroom resources project.

- Hillman Community Schools/Hillman High School was awarded \$400 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the woodworking program development.

### Presque Isle County

- Onaway Schools/Onaway High School was awarded \$500 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the field trip to the Holocaust Museum in May 2013.
- Posen Consolidated Schools/Posen High School was awarded \$500 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the shipwreck tours on Lady Michigan.


Posen Consolidated Schools was awarded \$500 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for busing for the senior class trip.

- St. Ignatius School was awarded \$500 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for interactive whiteboards.
  - Cheboygan, Otsego, and Presque Isle County ESD/Great Start Collaborative was awarded \$500 from the Kellogg Youth Fund for the Project Child Safe Program.
- To learn more about CFNEM or submitting a grant application, please contact our office in Alpena at (989) 354-6881 or (989) 354-6881 (toll free), or online at [www.cfnem.org](http://www.cfnem.org).


# Area Church Directory


**St. Andrew's Episcopal Church**  
  
**Corner of US-23 & Medor Rd., Harrisville • 724-5160**  
**9:30 A.M. SUNDAY SERVICE**

**Family Heritage Baptist Church**  
 4260 M-72 Harrisville (2.5 miles west of the light)  
 Pastor Ernest Ruemenapp (989) 724-6728 • [www.church72.org](http://www.church72.org)  
 Sunday worship services 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.  
 Sunday school 10 a.m. Wednesday 6 p.m. Patch the Pirate Club, children's ministry. Wednesday 6 p.m. midweek service (preaching and prayer service).


**New Life Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
  
**Sunday Worship & Sunday School 9:30 a.m.**  
 Hubbard Lake Rd.,  
 3/4 mile south of White Pine National Golf Course  
 Pastor Christina Bright Office 736-7816

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church (WELS)**  
  
**Church Street at Traverse Bay Road**  
 Lincoln, Mich. 48742 ~ 736-1227  
 Pastor Jacob Schwartz - Service, Sunday 9 a.m.

**ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
  
 6891 Nicholson Hill Road, Hubbard Lake, Mich. 49747  
 Sunday Worship 9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School & Adult Bible Class at 11 a.m.  
 Pastor Robert L. Mikkelson • (989) 727-2496

**Our Savior Lutheran Church**  
  
 3639 South M-65, Glennie, Michigan  
*Sunday Morning 10:30 a.m. Worship Service*  
 Rev. Carlo Sgambelluri, Pastor • *Everyone Welcome!*

**ALCONA COUNTY CATHOLIC CHURCHES**  
 ST. RAPHAEL, Mikado, Saturday 4:30 p.m.  
 ST. GABRIEL, Black River Saturday 6:30 p.m.  
 ST. CATHERINE (Ossineke) Sunday 9 a.m.  
 ST. ANNE, Harrisville Sunday 11 a.m.  
 Pastor: Fr. Robert Bissot • (989) 724-6713


**Westminster Presbyterian Church U.S.A.**  
  
 201 N. Second at Jefferson, Harrisville  
 Induction Loop equipped for tele-coil hearing aids  
 9:45 a.m. Adult Class • Worship & Sunday School ~ 11 a.m.  
 Thursday office hours 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
 Thomas J. Welscott, Pastor ~ 724-6734

**Spruce Lutheran Church (ELCA)**  
 Sunday Worship Service 9 a.m.  
**1246 E. Spruce Road, Spruce • 471-5013**  
**(3 miles west of F-41 & US-23) • Handicap Assessible**


**LOTT BAPTIST CHURCH**  
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. **4257 State Rd. Glennie**  
 Sunday morning service 11 a.m. **(989)735-3771.**  
 Sunday evening service 6 p.m. **Pastor Elmer Ash.**  
 Wednesday Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.

**Haynes Community Church**  
 4505 Shaw Road, Harrisville, Michigan 48740  
 Sunday Morning Service 11 a.m.  
 989-724-6665 • 989-724-6578  
 Pastor Claire Duncan • [haynescommunitychurch.org](http://haynescommunitychurch.org)

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**First Baptist Church of Lincoln**  
  
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. - Worship 11 a.m.  
 Bible Study/Prayer, Wed. 7 p.m.  
 AWANA Program Monday at 3:30 p.m.  
**Pastor Dr. Rev. Arie VanBrenk • 202 Main Street • 736-8796**

**CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
  
 2902 E. F-30, Mikado, MI 48745 • (989) 736-8345  
 Pastor Tim Steiner, Pastor Emeritus Larry Richmond  
 Sunday School: 10 a.m. • Sunday Worship Services: 11 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.  
 Monday: 6:30 p.m. \*Teen Program (Grades 7-12)  
 Wednesday: 6:30 p.m. Adult Prayer & Bible Study & Youth Programs (Grades K-6<sup>th</sup>)  
 \*Fall-Spring programs • Website: [www.cbcmikado.com](http://www.cbcmikado.com)

**Spruce Presbyterian Church**  
  
 Induction Loop equipped for tele-coil hearing aids  
 6230 Gillard Road (P.O. Box 37), Spruce, MI 48762 • 471-5464  
 Worship 9 a.m.  
 Thomas J. Welscott, Pastor Wednesday office hours 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**SOLID ROCK CHURCH OF GOD**  
 158 N. Barlow Road., Harrisville • (989) 736-6350  
 Pastor Edward Morrison • **Full Gospel**  
 Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Sunday Worship 11 a.m.  
 Evening Service 6 p.m. • Family Bible Study 7 p.m. Wednesday

**GRACE COMMUNITY EVANGELICAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
 6012 Skeel Ave. (next to the library on the old air base)  
 "Grace on the Base"  
[www.grace-epc.org](http://www.grace-epc.org), email: [pastordalrobertson@yahoo.com](mailto:pastordalrobertson@yahoo.com)  
 Pastor Dale Robertson: 739-3424  
 Sunday Worship: 10:45 a.m. • Sunday School: 9:30 a.m. • Wed. Bible Study: Noon & 6 p.m.  
 Currently preaching through I Thessalonians

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 Lincoln at 9:45 am (101 E. Main St.)  
 Harrisville at 11:15 am (217 N. State St.)

All sanctuaries are wheelchair accessible and all sites offer Sunday School for children during the worship hour.

Rev. Linda Jo Powers (989) 724-3033 (h)  
 E-mail: [pastorlindajo@charter.net](mailto:pastorlindajo@charter.net)  
**Come as you are – everyone is welcome!**

# Calendar of Events

**Continued from page 3**

All ladies are invited to play Bunco at the Greenbush Township Hall, 3029 Campbell Road at 2:30 p.m. Bunco is an easy game to learn, first-timers are always welcome.

Two computers and WiFi available for seniors over 60 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. For more information, call (989) 736-8879.

Walk inside from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the upstairs hall at the Lincoln Senior Center,

207 Church Street. Twenty-three times around the hall equals one mile.

**TUESDAY, APRIL 16**

The Alcona Book Club will meet from noon to 1 p.m. at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, 312 West Main Street. The selection for April is "Unbroken" by Laura Hillenbrand. Call (989) 724-6796 for more information.

Weight loss support group will meet at the Lincoln United Methodist Church, 101 E. Main Street, at 4 p.m. Visitors are welcome and there is

no membership fee. For more information, call (989) 736-8645 or (989) 736-8338.

Two computers and WiFi available for seniors over 60 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. For more information, call (989) 736-8879.

Walk inside from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the upstairs hall at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. Twenty-three times around the hall equals one mile.

Sing-a-long at 4 p.m. at

the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17**

Two computers and WiFi available for seniors over 60 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. For more information, call (989) 736-8879.

Walk inside from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the upstairs hall at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. Twenty-three times around the hall equals one mile.

Needle crafters are mak-

ing hats, scarves and more at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. all items will be donated to local organizations. Bring your knitting needles, looms, yarn and patterns. Beginning crafters are welcome. For more information, call (989) 736-8879.

Alcona woodcarvers meet from 2 to 4 p.m. downstairs at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street. All levels of woodcarvers including beginners are welcome.

Sing-a-long at 4 p.m. at the Greenbush Township Hall, 3029 Campbell Road, Greenbush. For more information, call (989) 736-8879.

Foot clinic with Connie Cosbett R.N. Cost is \$25, bring your own towel. For an appointment, call (989) 736-8879.

American Red Cross blood drive from noon to 6 p.m. in the upstairs hall at the Lincoln Senior Center, 207 Church Street.

Food pantry from 1 to 3 p.m. at Spruce Lutheran Church, 1246 East Spruce Road, Spruce. Clients must be present to receive food and identification is required. For more information, call (989) 471-5013.

Hope family night will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Hope Lutheran Church, 5462 West Nicholson Hill Road, Hubbard Lake. A light meal offered from 5:30 to 6:15 p.m. followed by music, parenting sessions and lessons and crafts for youth of all age groups. Reservations requested for planning purposes by not required. For more information, call (989) 727-3206.

**THURSDAY, APRIL 18**  
"Dining with the Docs" at noon at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, 312 West Main Street. Torey Kirkpatrick, P.A. will discuss new trends in treating osteoporosis. Light lunch provided, no charge. To register, call (989) 724-6796.

Celebrate Earth Day with a free tree giveaway, while supplies last, at the Harrisville and Lincoln branches of the Alcona County Library, compliments of the Alcona Conservation District. Call (989) 724-6796 for more information.

Community Walking Club for everyone will meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Harrisville branch of the Alcona County Library, 312 Main Street. For more information, call (989) 724-6796.

TOPS MI 1502 Mikado meets at St. Raphael Catholic Church, 2531 F-30, Mikado. Weigh-in starts at 9:15 a.m. and meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome. Handicap accessible. First meeting is free. For more info., call (989) 736-8022 or (989) 736-6045.



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## Alcona Review Weather Report April 10, 2013

### Seven Day Forecast

**WEDNESDAY**  
Rain Likely  
High: 36 Low: 30

**THURSDAY**  
Rain/Snow  
High: 33 Low: 28

**FRIDAY**  
Mostly Cloudy  
High: 36 Low: 26

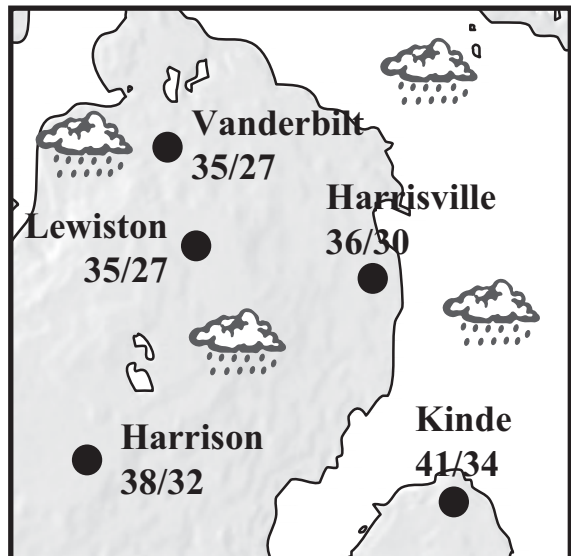
**SATURDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 38 Low: 27

**SUNDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 42 Low: 30

**MONDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 46 Low: 31

**TUESDAY**  
Partly Cloudy  
High: 45 Low: 28

### Today's Regional Map



### In-Depth Local Forecast

Today we will see cloudy skies with a 60% chance of rain, high temperature of 36°, humidity of 70%. Northeast wind 15 mph. The record high temperature for today is 76° set in 1955. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 60% chance of rain and snow, overnight low of 30°. Northeast wind 15 mph. The record low for tonight is 15° set in 1997.

#### \*Last Week's Almanac


Date	Hi	Lo	Normals	Precip
Monday	40	21	44/25	0.00"
Tuesday	35	19	44/25	0.00"
Wednesday	40	20	45/26	0.01"
Thursday	55	23	45/26	0.00"
Friday	39	28	45/26	0.00"
Saturday	35	20	46/27	0.16"
Sunday	47	36	46/27	0.02"

\*Data as reported from Alpena, MI

### Local Sun/Moon Chart This Week


	Day	Sunrise	Sunset	Moonrise	Moonset	
New 4/10	Wednesday	6:55 a.m.	8:12 p.m.	6:52 a.m.	8:50 p.m.	Full 4/25
	Thursday	6:53 a.m.	8:14 p.m.	7:23 a.m.	9:52 p.m.	
	Friday	6:52 a.m.	8:15 p.m.	7:58 a.m.	10:51 p.m.	
	Saturday	6:50 a.m.	8:16 p.m.	8:36 a.m.	11:47 p.m.	
	Sunday	6:48 a.m.	8:17 p.m.	9:19 a.m.	Next Day	
First 4/18	Monday	6:46 a.m.	8:19 p.m.	10:06 a.m.	12:38 a.m.	Last 5/2
	Tuesday	6:45 a.m.	8:20 p.m.	10:58 a.m.	1:23 a.m.	

### Local UV Index



UV Index  
0-2: Low, 3-5: Moderate, 6-7: High, 8-10: Very High, 11+: Extreme Exposure

### National Weather Summary This Week



The Northeast will see partly cloudy to cloudy skies with a few showers today and Thursday, scattered showers and thunderstorms Friday, with the highest temperature of 85° in Harrisburg, Pa. The Southeast will see mostly clear to partly cloudy skies with a few thunderstorms today through Friday, with the highest temperature of 89° in Naples, Fla. The Northwest will see partly cloudy to cloudy skies with isolated rain today through Friday, with the highest temperature of 75° in Medford, Ore. The Southwest will see mostly clear skies today through Friday, with the highest temperature of 90° in Thermal, Calif.

### Tonight's Planets

	Rise	Set
Mercury	6:17 a.m.	5:50 p.m.
Venus	7:12 a.m.	8:26 p.m.
Mars	7:05 a.m.	8:18 p.m.
Jupiter	9:28 a.m.	12:45 a.m.
Saturn	9:33 p.m.	8:04 a.m.
Uranus	6:38 a.m.	7:06 p.m.

### Weather History

**April 10, 1935** - Severe dust storms across Iowa and Kansas closed schools and highways. Dodge City, Kan. experienced its worst dust storm of record, with dense dust reported from the morning of April 9 until after sunset on April 11.

### Weather Trivia

What was known as the billion dollar lightning strike?

Answer: In 1977, lightning hit a New York City power line, causing a 24-hour black-out.

[www.WhatsOurWeather.com](http://www.WhatsOurWeather.com)

### StarWatch By Gary Becker - Smiley Moon, Smile Down on Me

There is a curious observation of the moon that is best seen in the spring nearest to the vernal equinox. I call it the "smiley moon." It originated several years ago from a quip made to me by a woman from church who had said that she had seen one several nights previously. My conversations with friends are often laced with comments about odd things that they have seen in the sky at some point in their lives. Actually, before my readers become too judgmental, I need to say that I actually enjoy these types of chats because many times, I get the opportunity to explain the observations, and sometimes buried within what was seen is a real "diamond in the rough." Such was the case with the smiley moon. Later that evening, my wife and I were catching a program on the tube. Our picture window faces west and through the gauzed curtains, I could see a horned moon that had a wide grin just like a Halloween pumpkin. I made two imaginary dots above it, and voila; there it was, the smiley moon about which I had just heard. I remember getting up and simply going outside, my hands on my hips, thinking something like, "You've been watching the moon all of your life, Gary, and you never put that together?" And the explanation was so simple. In the spring, the plane of the Earth's orbit, which represents the sun's path and very nearly the moon's path in the sky, is tilted at a steep angle to the horizon. As the moon pulls up and away from the sun after its new phase, the crescent which forms from the sun's light reflecting from the moon is nearly parallel to the horizon, creating the smile. On Saturday, April 13, about 45 minutes after sundown, look for a smiley moon between the "V" of Taurus the Bull's head and the Seven Sisters. Binoculars will make the view more enjoyable. The next day, the moon with an even bigger grin appears to the left of brilliant Jupiter. Have some smiley fun with the smiley moon! [www.astronomy.org](http://www.astronomy.org)

# The biggest targets for identity theft

*Dollars And Sense*  
By David Uffington

The Federal Trade Commission has released a report with new information about identity theft. While it's generally believed that seniors are the most likely victims of this type of fraud because they're assumed to be more vulnerable, the report shows that's not the case.

The Consumer Sentinel Network, the database used in the report, is available only to law enforcement and includes information input by a long list of agencies and organizations, the Better Business Bureau, the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center, the Post Office, and even the Canadian Anti-Fraud Centre.

During 2012 alone, 2 million complaints were logged, broken down as follows: 52 percent fraud, 18 percent identity theft and 30 percent other types of complaints, such as debt collection, banks and lenders, prizes, sweepstakes and lotteries, and impostor scams.

Government documents and benefits were the most common type of identity theft, followed by credit cards and phone or utilities. Florida, Georgia and California have the highest per capital rate of identity theft. The average dollar loss per fraud victim was \$2,350.

In the Consumer Sentinel Network Data Book, it appears that the older the age group, the higher the percentage of overall fraud victims, until reaching the seniors.

20-29: 15 percent  
30-39: 16 percent  
40-49: 19 percent  
50-59: 23 percent  
60-69: 17 percent  
Over 70: 9 percent

However, when it comes to actual identity theft, the numbers are reversed:

20-29: 21 percent  
30-39: 19 percent  
40-49: 18 percent  
50-59: 17 percent  
60-69: 11 percent  
Over 70: 8 percent

How does this happen? Scammers pretend to be from

government agencies or credit-card companies and call to ask for personal information. Twenty-somethings, raised on electronic gadgets, give it to them.

If you've become a victim of identity theft, contact your bank and credit card companies. If you think your information has been compromised, put a freeze on your credit information at all three credit bureaus.

Order copies of your credit reports and study them carefully to make sure all the information is correct.

File a complaint with the FTC ([www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)) and the police. The information you add to the database will help law enforcement in their investigations. To learn more about the Sentinel Network, go to [www.FTC.gov/sentinel](http://www.FTC.gov/sentinel).

*(David Uffington regrets that he cannot personally answer reader questions, but will incorporate them into his column whenever possible. Send email to [columnreply2@gmail.com](mailto:columnreply2@gmail.com).)*

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## Handy household tips

By JoAnn Derson

• When you get near the end of a roll of paper towels, save it to put in your car. Put together a kit to keep in the car with the following items: a small bottle of Windex or other cleaner, a squeeze bottle of water, some wet wipes and the short roll of paper towels. You'll always be ready for a quick on-the-road cleanup.

• To kick the itch from bug bites, make a mixture of half lime juice and half water. Apply to bug bites on a soaked cotton ball.

• When you finish a wood-working project, save your leftover bits of sandpaper and use them to sharpen your scissors. All you need is a piece long enough to cut through a few times.

• "Plastic grocery bags are handy for so many uses, but keeping them organized was always a pain, until I discovered that I could use an empty tissue box to store them. I just ball up each bag individually (so there is no air trapped) and stuff it in the tissue box. You can do

the same thing for larger amounts of bags by using an empty 12-pack soda box. I store one of these in my shop." -- Fred C. from Pennsylvania

• "Tired of squirrels on your bird feeders? String a line of 2-liter soda bottles (as many as you like) together, and hang them between two trees, with the feeder in the middle. Works like a charm." -- C.V. in Maine

• For the summer gardeners getting ready out there, this tip comes from D.B. in Washington: "If you scratch your arms working with your roses and other things in your yard, cut the toes off a pair of tube socks and pull them over your forearms. It works great!"

*(Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, Fla. 32853-6475 or e-mail [JoAnn@heresatip@yahoo.com](mailto:JoAnn@heresatip@yahoo.com).)*

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## Collecting cartoons and comics

By Larry Cox

Q: In a recent column, you responded to a reader who had a hand-written letter by Charles Schulz. In your answer, you wrote that a comic strip by Schulz would, of course, be worth much more than a signed letter.

I have several signed comic strips, including ones from "Peanuts," "Pogo," "Beetle Bailey," "Alley Oop" and "Frank and Ernest." I also have signed original political cartoons by Dan Fitzpatrick, Tom Engelhardt, Scott Long and Pat Oliphant. I certainly do not expect you to appraise my collection, but hope you can suggest where I might obtain such information. -- Robert, Godfrey, Ill.

A: Frederick P. Dose is a member of the International Society of Appraisers and has verified and valued more than 60,000 original cartoons for the Cartoon Museum of Ohio State University. To say that he is an

expert in this field is an understatement. Contact Dose at 778 Pleasant Ave., Highland Park, IL 60035. Another useful contact is Curator, Cartoon Research Library, University of Ohio, 0231 Wexner, 27 West 17th Ave. Mall, Columbus, OH 04310; [cartoons@osu.edu](mailto:cartoons@osu.edu); and [www.lib.ohio-state.edu](http://www.lib.ohio-state.edu). Incidentally, the Ohio State collection now houses more than 200,000 cartoons.

\*\*\*

Q: I have a casting reel that has never been used. I purchased it at a flea market, and I would like to know how much it is worth. -- George, Albuquerque, N.M.

A: Probably about what you paid. However, if you think you got a bargain, you might invest in a copy of "Fishing Collectibles: Rods, Reels, Creels" by Russell E. Lewis and published by Krause. It has more than 2,000 illustrations and is one of the better references. You might find your reel in it along with

a current value.

\*\*\*

Q: I have a Belgium bread baking stove, which I recently gave to my daughter. I know it has value, but how much? -- John, Campton Hills, Ill.

A: One of the better resources I can recommend is the Antique Stoves Association, which offers appraisals for \$25. The address is 410 Flemings Road, Tekonska, MI 49092. If you are restoring a vintage gas or election stove, the Old Appliance Club is useful; call 805-643-3532.

*(Write to Larry Cox in care of King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475, or send e-mail to [questions-forcox@aol.com](mailto:questions-forcox@aol.com). Due to the large volume of mail he receives, Mr. Cox is unable to personally answer all reader questions. Do not send any materials requiring return mail.)*

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## MRI can verify gulf war illness

Veterans Post

By Freddy Groves

Gulf War illness is not psychological, and scientists can prove it.

Researchers at Georgetown University were able to see the damage to the brain in 31 test veterans with Gulf War illness. The findings, published recently in the PLOS ONE journal, describe how a fast and definitive diagnosis can be produced. Specifically, they looked at brain fibers that process pain. In veterans with Gulf War illness, those fibers never turn off. Pain is constant.

The key here is that researchers (or doctors) can see the actual damage to the fibers with a machine that many hospitals have -- an MRI, or Magnetic Resonance Imaging. All that's needed is special software called fMRI.

Knowing that Gulf War illness is not psychological is not new. Studies have linked it to 1990-1991 exposure to sarin gas, pesticides, oil-well fires, smoke, petroleum, anti-nerve-gas pills and a whole array of vaccinations, including anthrax and botulinum toxin.

A partial list of illnesses tied to exposure: Chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia, gastrointestinal disorders such as irritable bowel syndrome, muscle and joint pain, headache, memory problems and skin conditions. What's been seen in the 250,000 veterans who were exposed is that the illness doesn't go away. It gets worse as time goes on.

Veterans who meet certain criteria can receive disability compensation, starting with a Gulf War Registry health exam. Enrollment in Department of Veterans Affairs health care is not required to get the free exam. Also available is the full range of VA health care.

However, there is a time limit: Per the VA website, symptoms must be present for at least six months and have appeared during active duty -- or by Dec. 31, 2016.

Call the VA Health Benefits Call Center at (877) 222-8387 for more information.

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## Horoscopes

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) Rumors of a change in the workplace could make you a mite uneasy about going ahead with implementing your ideas. Best advice: Ignore the talk and proceed as planned.

**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Everyone has an opinion on how to handle a recent business suggestion. Thank them for their advice. Then go ahead and follow your own fine instincts.

**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) While home is your main focus this week, new issues in the workplace need your attention as well. Take things step by step. Pressures ease in time for weekend fun.

**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) Be less rigid when handling a relationship problem.

You might believe you're in the right, but try to open your mind to the possibilities of facts you're currently not aware of.

**LEO** (July 23 to August 22) Leos and Leonas run at a hectic pace throughout much of the week. But by the weekend, the lions' dens become a purrrfect place for you fine felines to relax in.

**VIRGO** (August 23 to September 22) Change is favored early in the week. This should make it easier for you to reassess your plans for handling a troubling professional relationship. Good luck.

**LIBRA** (September 23 to October 22) A suggestion from a colleague could give your professional project that long-needed boost. Meanwhile, someone close to you still

needs your emotional support.

**SCORPIO** (October 23 to November 21) Before complying with a colleague's request, check to see that the action benefits all, not just one person's agenda. Continue firming up those travel plans.

**SAGITTARIUS** (November 22 to December 21) Your social life is on the upswing, and the only problem is deciding which invitations to accept. Enjoy yourself before settling down for some serious work next week.

**CAPRICORN** (December 22 to January 19) With your creative aspects on high, you might want to restart your work on that novel or painting you put aside. Your ef-

forts will bring a surge in your self-esteem.

**AQUARIUS** (January 20 to February 18) While you're generous with others, be sure you're not overlooking your own needs. Take time to assess your situation and make adjustments where necessary.

**PISCES** (February 19 to March 20) Being applauded for your achievement is great. But watch out that you don't start acting like a star. It could lose your valuable support with your next project.

**BORN THIS WEEK:** Your strong belief in justice, along with your leadership qualities, help you protect the rights of others.

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# Sturgeon studies examine spawning, bring science to school

By **Matthew Hall**  
Capital News Service

Researchers at Black Lake are studying threats to sturgeon and using their findings to teach biology to students from kindergarten through high school.

Among the questions being examined at the 10,130-acre lake in Cheboygan and Presque Isle counties is why the prehistoric fish hasn't reproduced in the wild as much as scientists would like.

There are some working hypotheses, said Edward Baker, one of the lead investigators on the project. One theory is that the habitat isn't ideal for sturgeon.

"The habitat has changed sufficiently from what it was before Europeans extensively settled the state that the larvae, once they hatch and start to grow, just aren't surviving," said Baker, the lake sturgeon coordinator at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

"Pollution and water quality issues were probably a problem back around the turn of the century when the sturgeon initially declined," he said.

Nowadays, people don't pollute as much and water quality is much better, he said. The biggest habitat challenge is that many rivers where the sturgeon spawn have dams. Dams change a river's flow and block traditional spawning grounds. Complicating the matter is

the sturgeon's unique reproduction, said Kim Scribner, another lead investigator.

When most people think of fish spawning, they think of species that make nests; where an area is carved out, the female lays the eggs, the male fertilizes them and there is some level of parental care, said Scribner, a fisheries and wildlife professor at Michigan State University (MSU).

But sturgeon release sperm and eggs that are distributed over large areas of water, he said. "It's a very inefficient system. It requires a lot of individuals."

With fewer fish, the process is even less efficient. Sturgeon require up to 20 years to reach sexual maturity.

Invasive species may also be a persistent problem, Scribner said. "One of the largest predators of larvae and juvenile lake sturgeon are invasive rusty crayfish. They are voracious predators on sturgeon, even at older age levels where the individuals are large enough to be beyond the threat of predation by most fish predators."

But the researchers aren't letting sturgeon go down without a fight. They also run a sturgeon hatchery near Black Lake.

Research there provides valuable information about how genetic diversity may help preserve the species,

said Dave Borgeson, supervisor for the Northern Lake Huron Management Unit of DNR's fisheries division.

If there's a lot of genetic diversity in a population, it allows that population to respond better and more quickly to a change in the environment, Baker said. If a population is very close genetically, it could be especially susceptible to a particular disease that could wipe out the whole population.

The project also develops K-12 curricula derived from actual data that scientists gather sturgeon. It includes lesson plans that educators have used in their own science classes.

For Scribner, that aspect of the project is about giving students an experience with real biology. "Kids can get really excited learning about science, technology, engineering and math types of work but in the context of a very charismatic species," Scribner said. The sturgeon, with its huge, six-foot body and shark-like tail, inspires students to look into the data and interpret graphs to see what they say about the sturgeon and their environment.

Lesson plans include instruction about the scientific method, egg survival, capturing juveniles and spawning behavior.

Beyond the science, the classes also instill children with a sense of attachment



A young sturgeon. Photo courtesy of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

to the environment, and as future voters, a sense of responsibility. Baker said, "I don't think it's any secret that, over time, we're becoming a more urbanized society and students are less and less exposed to the natural world."

"It's important to give students an understanding that there is a natural world around them that does provide benefits for us, and if we don't take care of it, those benefits will disappear," he said.



**The Garden Bug**

*"Fools' Gold" flowering maple*

**Abutilon** plants are commonly known as "flowering maples," as their leaves resemble maple leaves. These perennial shrubs like well-drained soil and sun or part shade. Their colorful, paper-lantern-like flowers attract hummingbirds and butterflies.

Source: [www.plantdelights.com](http://www.plantdelights.com), [www.ehow.com](http://www.ehow.com)

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